

Filed for intro on 03/30/2000

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 564
By Brown

A RESOLUTION to designate Wednesday, March 29, 2000 as
National Association of Social Workers' Day on
the Hill.

WHEREAS, the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) is the largest organization of professional social workers, boasting a membership of 155,000. NASW has fifty-five chapters in the United States and abroad, and is headquartered in Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, founded in 1955, the Association's mission is to promote, develop and protect the practice of social work and social workers. NASW also seeks to enhance the effective functioning and well-being of individuals, families, and communities through both its work and its advocacy; and

WHEREAS, social workers are trained professionals who have earned bachelor's, master's or doctoral degrees in social work. The spectrum of practice settings include family service agencies, community mental health centers, child welfare, private practice, schools, hospitals, businesses, nursing homes, courts, prisons, and public and private agencies; and

HJR0564

01181656

WHEREAS, the individual and societal ills addressed by social workers include substance abuse, family conflicts, workplace tensions, health problems, disabilities, mental illness, inadequate housing, poverty and violence. Social workers work directly with individuals and families, as well as in public policy, administration, research, community organizing and advocacy; the application of their skills to problems can often lead to a significant savings in social costs by solving problems before they become a serious social blight; and

WHEREAS, the largest group of mental health services providers in this nation is comprised of professional social workers, with federal law recognizing social work as one of four core mental health professions; and

WHEREAS, besides promoting its profession and advancing social work practice, NASW seeks to shape public policy by lobbying for legislation to improve health, welfare and other human services programs; by advocating for civil rights, and for recognition for the social work profession; and by supporting political candidates who back sound societal practices; and

WHEREAS, NASW actively promotes March as Professional Social Work Month, conducting annual public service campaigns to educate the public on pressing social issues and to increase an accurate awareness of the profession of social work; and

WHEREAS, on March 29, 2000 representatives of NASW in Tennessee will be present in Nashville for their "NASW Day on the Hill"; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That this General Assembly hereby designates Wednesday, March 29, 2000, as National Association of Social Workers "Day on the Hill."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we welcome NASW's members to Nashville and express to them our sincere thanks for their service to the good people of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

